

Serial No. 10/820,655
Thorson et al
Docket No. CE12354R

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 6~~ A method in a base station of detecting cloned communication units, the method comprising:

receiving, responsive to a page message, a first response message and a second response message;

determining whether a first identification filed corresponding to the first response message is equivalent to a second identification field corresponding to the second response message;

when the first identification filed is equivalent to the second identification field, assessing whether one of a first message content and a first message property corresponding to the first response message is not correlated, respectively, with one of a second message content and a second message property corresponding to the second response message; and

when the one of the first message content and the first message property is not correlated, respectively, with the one of the second message content and the second message property, deciding that one of the first response message and the second response message corresponds to a cloned communication unit.

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wherein the assessing whether the first message property is not correlated with the second message property further comprising assessing whether a first arrival time of the first response message is not correlated with a second arrival time of the second response message, and

wherein the first and the second arrival time are compared to provide a relative arrival time and when the relative arrival time satisfies a threshold determining that the first message property is not correlated with the second message property.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The call screening unit of claim 16 wherein the processor is further operable~~ A call screening unit in a communication system, the call screening unit operable to detect cloned communication units operating in the communication system and comprising:

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an input for receiving a first response message and a second response message;
and

a processor operable:

to determine whether a first identification field corresponding to the first response message is equivalent to a second identification field corresponding to the second response message;

when the first identification field is equivalent to the second identification field, to assess whether one of a first message content and a first message property corresponding to the first response message is not correlated, respectively, with one of a second message content a second message property corresponding to the second response message;

when the one of the first message content and the first message property is not correlated, respectively, with the one of the second message content and the second message property, to decide that one of the first response message and the second response message corresponds to a cloned communication unit;

to assess whether a first arrival time of the first response message is not correlated with a second arrival time of the second response message; and

to compare the first and the second arrival time to provide a relative arrival time and when the relative arrival time satisfies a threshold determined that the first message property is not correlated with the second message property.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) ~~A base station of claim 21~~ A base station operable to detect cloned communication units, the base station comprising:

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a receiver operable to receive, responsive to a page message, a first response message and a second response message; and

a processor operable:

to determine whether a first identification field corresponding to the first response message is equivalent to a second identification field corresponding to the second response message;

when the first identification field is equivalent to the second identification field, to assess whether a first radio environment report corresponding to the first response message is not correlated, respectively, with a second radio environment report corresponding to the second response message;

when the first radio environment report is not correlated with the second radio environment report, to decide that one of the first response message and the second response message corresponds to a cloned communication unit; and

wherein the processor, prior to the deciding, is further operable to assess whether a relative arrival time corresponding to the first response message and the second response message satisfies a threshold.

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